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IDEA 0858-69

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29 October 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Trip Report on Visit to Norfolk NAS, Virginia  
27 October 1969

1. Personnel Contacted at Norfolk NAS:

Captain Jack Manherz  
Chief of Staff, Operations, Atlantic Fleet

Captain John W. Fair  
J-3, Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet

2. Resume of Business Transacted:

a. The following individuals were in attendance:

[Redacted] Intel/OSA  
[Redacted] SS/OSA  
[Redacted] D/M/OSA  
[Redacted] IDEA/OSA  
[Redacted] LAC

Commander John Flanigan, Office of Chief,  
Naval Operations (CNO)

b. Captain Manherz was certified for IW-3 clearance by [Redacted] after which he was briefed on prior U-2 carrier exercises and our present requirement for seventeen hours deck time for carrier qualification of the U-2R and four Agency pilots. Captain Manherz was concerned about the allocation of the required deck time for both aircraft and pilots. He recommended that we utilize the "transit time" of the Independence (2 to 4 December and 13 to 14 December) when it would be enroute from Norfolk to Mayport, Florida and return. During this transit period the routine naval carrier qualification will be at a minimum.

Navy has no objection to  
declassification and release.

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c. Captain Manherz suggested that a group of four, which included [redacted] Commander Flanigan and myself, visit Captain Fair who would be more directly involved. Captain Fair was briefed on our requirements and was very receptive to our needs. He stated that he had been previously involved in the U-2C carrier operation. He suggested that we consider using the Carrier America (CVA 66 - Improved Forrestal Class) during its sea trials scheduled for the entire month of December 1969. During this period there will be very little air activity and the carrier will be out for only three to five days and then return to Norfolk. (This may be a more ideal carrier for aircraft and pilot qualifications.)

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3. Action Completed:

Captain Fair stated that a formal request would be required from the CNO tasking them with our requirements. Commander Flanigan has levied the requirements by message and we will be subsequently advised as to the desirable dates for the Blue Gull Exercise.

4. Recommendation:

[redacted] has requested a date for LAC personnel to inspect the Carriers Independence and America to physically check and measure deck obstructions, elevator and hangar deck openings. This information will be furnished LAC after a firm date is established by Commander Flanigan.

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NOTED:

Chief, IDEALIST Division, OSA

Deputy for Operations, OSA

Director for Special Activities

*29 October 1969*  
Date

*30 Oct 69*  
Date

*30 Oct 69*  
Date

IDEA/OSA (29 Oct 69)  
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